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DATA ON BULGARIAN IRRIGATION CANALS AND DAMSIrrigation SystemsThe following was written by Tyanko Yordanov.

There is insufficient moisture in Bulgaria and yearly summer droughts are prevalent in the country. While precipitation averages 70-80 liters per square meter during May and June, during July and August, it averages only 30-40 liters, and, in some parts of Bulgaria, even less. As a consequence, artificial irrigation is very much needed.

Through irrigation, agricultural production per decare has been increased twofold and threefold

Bulgarian water resources make it possible to irrigate over 12 million decares, which is about 25 percent of the arable land in Bulgaria. Up to 1949, a total of 940,000 decares had been irrigated, while during 1950 and 1951 an additional 800,000 decares were irrigated. At present, a total of 1,800,000 decares are irrigated in the country. According to the Five-Year Plan, a total of 3 million decares must be irrigated during 1953, or 6 percent of the total arable land.

There are 73 engine-driven and electric pumps and 50 kilometers of irrigation canals in Ruzhevo Konare, Plovdiv Okoliya. As a result of irrigation, 8,000 kilograms of apples per decare were obtained in Kurtovo Konare, Plovdiv Okoliya.

The completed "Vasil Kolarov" Dam makes the irrigation of 130,000 decares of land possible in the Maritsa lowland between Krichim and Plovdiv. When the "Stalin" Dam on the Iskur River near Pasarel, the "Rositsa" Dam on the Rositsa River near Gorsko Kosovo, the "Georgi Dimitrov" Dam on the Tundzha River near Koprinka, the "Topolnitsa" Dam on the Topolnitsa River near Mukhovo, and the "Studena" Dam on the Struma River near Studena are completed, over 1,500,000 decares of land will be irrigated.

- 1 -

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An irrigation system which includes 308 kilometers of irrigation canals and 200 reservoirs is located in the Belene lowland between Nikopol and Svishtov. This system, which irrigates 130,000 decares of land, was completed in 1950.

The Brushlyan irrigation system, which was completed at the end of April 1951 and is located between Ruse and Tutrakan, includes 1,200 kilometers of irrigation canals, on which over 150 bridges and nine syphons have been built. This system, which irrigates 180,000 decares of land, will be named after Stalin.

The "Studena" Dam

[The following was written by Ignat Penkov and Martin Glavnya.]

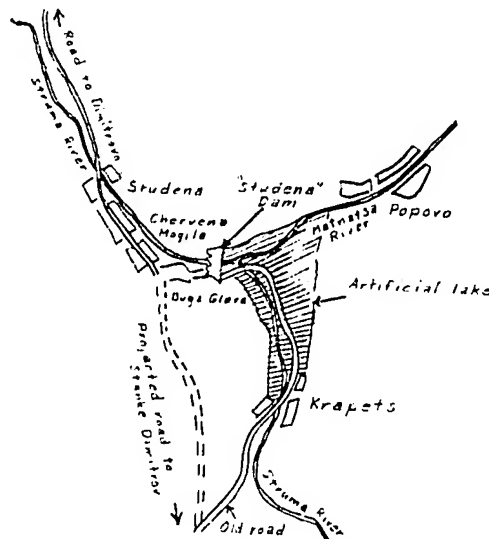
The "Studena" Dam, when completed, will cause the formation of an artificial lake between Krapets and Popovo, which will hold 45 million cubic meters of water. Some of the water of the dam will flow through pipes to the condensers of the "Republika" TETs (Steam-Heat and Electric Power Station) near Dimitrovo and thus increase the electric power output by 20 million kilowatt-hours. The remaining water will be used to irrigate 40,000 decares of fields near Dimitrovo and Temeikovo (formerly Batanovtsi).

Hundreds of families will have to be moved from settlements near Krapets and Popovo because these will be submerged when the new lake of the "Studena" Dam is formed.

Because of the lake, the Sofia-Stanke Dimitrov road will be changed. A section of this road will be flooded. The new road section will leave the old road near the large curve in the vicinity of Turkulnat kamuk near the village of Studena and will return to it near the hamlet of Novachks, which is near Krapets. The new road section will shorten the Sofia-Stanke Dimitrov road by about one kilometer.

About 600 persons are working at the "Studena" Dam site.

The following is a sketch of the "Studena" Dam, surrounding villages, and of the old and projected road.



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- 2 -

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